

September 04, 1998

BANGLADESH

- 66 to 75% of the country is currently submerged leaving 580 people dead and 25 million homeless.

CANADA

- Fires burn in Alberta and Saskatchewan

CHAD

- On September 1, 1998 a declaration of disaster was made as a result of flooding.

CHINA

- Outbreaks of typhoid and dysentery in Heilongjiang and Jilin.

CUBA

- U.N. agencies appealed for \$20.5 million USD worth of food aid designed to provide relief for the 600,000 people affected by drought related food shortages.

FIJI

- 168,975 adults and 94,480 children are in need of assistance as a result of drought affected cane harvests.

INDIA

- Flood related deaths at 1,086
- 1.5 million marooned
- 31.4 million affected in 13 inundated states
- 22,700 villages in 167 districts affected
- 6.4 million hectares flooded (2.9 of which is destroyed crops)
- 66,000 domestic animals lost
- 670,000 houses damaged or destroyed

INDONESIA

- Rice prices 4 to 5 times greater than earlier in the year.
- Sri Diharto, director of the Indonesian Bureau of Meteorology and Geo-physics stated that La Niña will not cause storms or hurricanes/typhoons over Indonesia since the country lies in a hurricane/typhoon free zone. However, the country does expect to receive above normal rainfall till the end of the year and into the first part of 1999.

LAC

- Fires burn in Brazil, Bolivia, Paraguay, and Argentina

MEXICO

- Hurricane Isis caused 1,660 people to be evacuated and affected 300 households.

NEPAL

- Flooding has caused 222 deaths since mid-June.
- Bridges and roads washed away.
- 100,000 acres of crop land damaged for a estimated loss of \$22.0 million USD.

RUSSIA

- Fires burn in Northeastern Russia

SUDAN

- 10,000 households (70,000 people) from Kassala affected by flooding
- ~1,200 homes destroyed by flooding

- 100,000 people throughout all of Sudan affected by flooding

UNITED STATES

- Fires in Nevada burned 13,000 acres
- Fires in Idaho burned 15,000 acres
- Fires burned in Montana
- Fires in California:
 - Juniper Flats- 100 structures destroyed, 6,000 acres burned
 - Riverside County- 5,000 acres burned, \$2.9 million in damage
 - San Diego County- 5,000 acres burned
 - Near Camp Pendleton Marine base- 1,700 acres burned
 - Orange County- 2,100 acres burned
- In North Carolina 37,500 insurance claims worth \$256 million resulted from damaged caused by hurricane Bonnie.

YEMEN

- Flooding in Yemen has raised the death toll to 67.

September 11, 1998

BANGLADESH

- 1.3 million tonnes of unharvested rice destroyed by floods.
- Autumn rice planting delayed by heavy rains.
- 770 people dead, other sources quoting 850.
- 21 million people homeless, other sources stating 124 million people displaced.
- GOB appealed for 900 million USD in immediate relief aid
- 75% of country is inundated.
- Flooding has also caused losses of 20 percent or more to the garment and shrimp industries of Bangladesh.
- 100,000 reportedly contracted diarrhea.
- OCHA SITREPs note:
 - 51 districts affected
 - 23,458,713 people affected
 - 584 dead
 - 668,929 acres of crop damage
 - 432,076 houses damaged
 - 11,237 km of road damaged
 - 4,258 km of embankment damaged
- WFP Emergency Report notes that as of Aug. 26.
 - 353,000 houses destroyed and 1.2 million damaged.
 - 800,000 hectares of crops damaged.
 - 9,000 km road damaged
- 6,500 bridges and culverts washed away.

BRAZIL

- 3.7 million acres of rainforest have burned as a result of run-away slash and burn practices.
- The states of Tocantins, Para. Mato Grosso, Rondonia, and Acre have been the hardest hit.
- 65% of the Araguaia Indigenous Park has burned.
- Indian reservations and wildlife have suffered.

CHINA

- Growing concern for the homeless and affected as boreal winter begins in the next few months.
- The cost of the recent flooding may be as high as 36 billion USD.

- GOC reports 223 million affected, 15.85 million displaced
- 52 Siberian tigers were evacuated from the Songhua river area in mid-August due to flooding, and they not expected to be released for another 4 weeks. Only about 300 Siberian tigers remain in the wild.
- Rising concern over snail fever and other diseases. 513 cases reported in Jingzhou county, Hubei province.

CUBA

- WFP approved 20.5 million USD in food aid designed to help 600,000 suffering from drought related food shortages in the eastern parts of the country.
- GOC has stated it will not accept drought relief aid if it comes from the U.S.

DPR KOREA (north)

- In Jonpyong County floods and storms have affected 10,000, killed 10, injured 172, and caused 40 people to be missing.
- Country wide 2,300 houses have been damaged or destroyed.
- 3km of road washed away.
- Flooding and storms have damaged or destroyed 43,000 hectares of crops.

FIJI

- Continued drought has caused a water crisis and state of emergency.

FIRE

- Forest and brush fires continue to burn in Alberta and Saskatchewan Canada, Southern California, Idaho, Montana, Brazil, and Eastern Russia

INDIA

- In Murshidabad 4,000 persons have been affected by gastroenteritis brought about by recent flooding.
- In West Bengal the number of people affected by flooding is 4.5 million
- Flooding in West Bengal, Assam, and Uttar Pradesh has claimed 1,586 lives -- other sources claim 1,800.
- In the 453 sq km Kaziranga National Park, 17 rhinos, 6 elephants and 100 deer were believed drowned.
- 5,000 villages submerged
- 2.2 million acres of rice and other crops destroyed

JAPAN

- Flooding of the Yangtze and other rivers in China has reportedly caused 680 tons of debris to wash ashore Japan's western coast in southern Kyushu.

MEXICO

- Flooding has displaced 25,000.
- 650,000 are without electricity.
- Official death toll 45. Other sources state 18 have reportedly died in Pijijiapan, 31 in Chiapas, and 7 throughout the rest of the country. 50 people are also missing in Chiapas and presumed dead.

NIGER

- 20,000 homeless since mid-July as well as destroying roads and bridges.
- GON has requested international community aid.

PHILIPPINES

- GOP declared an epidemic of dengue fever in 5 areas.
- 202 people have died from dengue this year while another 11,000 have been affected.

SOMALIA

- According to the WFP, many will suffer from starvation due to the worst harvest in five years. The WFP said El Niño related flooding and regional conflicts are to blame for the poor production.

SUDAN

- Flooding in the states of Kharoum, River Nile, Northern Nile, White Nile, and Kassala has displaced 100,000 people.
- GOS launched an appeal for 20 million USD worth of emergency relief aid.
- GOS asked Egypt to open dams in order to reduce flooding.
- Other sources state 204,000 families have been displaced
- 119,000 houses destroyed
- 95 schools destroyed
- 60 health institutions destroyed
- 1.25 million hectares (~3 million acres) of farmland destroyed.
- An IFRC report states:
 - 1,950 families (9,750 people) affected, 350 families homeless in White Nile State
 - 3,135 families (15,677 people) affected in River Nile State
 - Estimated 4,000 families (20,000 people) affected in Northern State.
- Estimated 10,000 families (50,000 people) affected in Kassala State.

UNITED STATES

- Fires in Saskatchewan, Canada have sent smoke into the northern U.S.
- Fires in Montana have burned 30,000 acres.

VIETNAM

- Officials have stated that adverse weather has caused dengue cases to increase 121 percent to 99,151 for this year. Deaths for a similar period last year were 112 -- this year they have been 214.

September 18, 1998

BELGIUM & NETHERLANDS (floods)

- evacuation of hundreds
- one person dead

BANGLADESH (floods, epidemic)

- 1,000 dead from flooding
- Diarrhea epidemic likely, 245,000 have been or are currently affected.

CHINA (floods)

- The WFP will help 5.8 million victims in Hunan, Hubei, Anhui, and Jiangxi provinces following assistance requests from the GOC.
- GOC estimate of 20 billion USD worth of damage
- 5 million homes destroyed
- 21 million hectares of farmland inundated
- Hubei ended 37-day flood emergency

CUBA (drought)

- 400,000 persons currently receiving a water ration.
- Drought affected 99,403 hectares of 1998 crop.
- Drought losses to the 1997 harvest amounted to \$62.4 million USD

EAST AFRICA (expected below normal rainfall)

- Transport and Communication Minister William ole Ntimama warned east African nations of below normal rainfall during the coming months as a result of La Niña. He expected the agricultural sector and water resources to suffer.

FIJI (drought)

- GOF found in a survey 54,385 households are in need of assistance (168, 975 adults and 94,480 children) 91 schools are also experiencing water shortages.

FIRE

- Forest and brush fires continue in Brazil, Bolivia, Paraguay, and Eastern Russia

INDIA (floods and mudslides)

- 1,500 dead
- 22,700 villages in 167 districts severely affected or destroyed
- 75,000 evacuated
- 6.4 million hectares have been inundated (2.9 hectares is cropland lost)
- 670,000 houses damaged or destroyed

INDONESIA (floods expected)

- The Indonesia Bureau of Meteorology and Geophysics announced it expects La Niña to cause flooding in Jakarta from October through December.
- 17 million families could be affected by food shortages by the end of the year.

JAPAN (Typhoon Stella)

- 820,000 prevented from traveling as trains ceased running.
- 3,000 homes flooded
- 180 landslides
- 2 dead
- 23 others injured

MEXICO (floods and landslides)

- 400,000 people in Chiapas isolated/cut-off from relief aid.
- 407 reportedly dead
- 849 missing
- 106,744 homeless

VIETNAM (drought)

- 82,273 hectares of summer-autumn rice and 94,812 hectares of the winter rice crop severely affected.

September 25, 1998

BANGLADESH (floods)

In just two short days, 27,000 new cases of diarrhoea were reported. This comes in addition to the 287,000 people who have suffered or are suffering from the infliction since the floods began in mid-July.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was quoted for saying that enough food reserves remained in combination with current food assistance shipments to overcome damage from the worst floods since 1988. Bangladesh has appealed for \$900 million in immediate relief. \$83 million has been received of the \$163 million currently pledged. Hasina estimated the grain shortfall at 4.3 million tonnes -- she expects the GOB to import 1 million and the private sector another 1.5 million tonnes; the rest will need to come from international assistance.

Short-term supply problems have caused the price of rice to rise 15-20%. 33% of the sugar cane crop, 25% of banana crop, and 25% of the fisheries harvest have been destroyed/damaged by the floods. Losses to the shrimp export could be 50 to 100 million USD. Overall losses to the agricultural sector could be 600-800 million USD (1.8-2.3% of GDP)

The typical grain shortfall each year is around 2 million tonne, flooding has caused it to double to 4.3 million tonnes this year. Flooding has also killed 1,228 people and caused 287,000 people to suffer from diarrhea.

CHINA

Flood refugees are increasingly suffering from hemorrhagic and snail fever.

CUBA (Hurricane Georges)

Nearly 500,000 people were evacuated from danger zones as Hurricane Georges approached.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (Hurricane Georges)

- 70 dead as reported by President Leonel Fernandez
- Damage to power lines and grid estimated at \$111 million USD.

EASTERN CARIBBEAN (flooding)

- 1,650 homes damaged
- 50% of phone lines down
- \$402 million worth of damage
- 80-85% of homes damaged
- 20-25% of homes completely destroyed
- 50% of 1999 sugar harvest is expected lost
- 35% of the housing stock has been damaged

FIJI (drought)

- 55,000 households in need of assistance
- GOF has given \$3.94 million USD in relief to cane farmers.

FIRES

Fires continue in Brazil, eastern Russia, and Sakhalin.

HAITI (Hurricane Georges)

- 27 dead
- 29 serious injuries
- 9 missing persons

MEXICO (floods)

- 183 dead
- 23,000 people displaced into 83 government shelters
- 25,000 receiving food aid from 434 community kitchens
- GOM stated that deforestation and illegal housing worsened the floods.

NEPAL

- 16,000 families affected
- 246 people dead
- 8,000 homes destroyed

PHILIPPINES (flood)

Two consecutive typhoons have caused flooding which has killed 27 people; damaged 43,740 acres of rice for an estimated dollar loss \$520,000. The Philippines is hit by an average of 20 typhoons a year.

PERU (1997-98 El Nino)

The GOP quoted new damage totals related to the 1997-98 El Nino Friday as \$1.2 billion worth of infrastructure damage; 300 deaths; and 200,000 people displaced or homeless.

RUSSIA

Forest fires continue to rage throughout Sakhalin destroying 62,000 hectares. 2 people have reportedly died in the fires.

SUDAN (floods)

Over 100,000 of the displaced/homeless are in need of emergency intervention. 1 million throughout the country are affected. 500 villages have been completely destroyed. 12 of 26 states affected.

NORTH STATE

- 28,000 homeless
- 30% of date and citrus crop destroyed
- 70% of sorghum yield destroyed
- Irrigation systems damaged or destroyed.

RIVER NILE STATE

- 35,000 homeless
- some areas inaccessible
- 400,000 feddans (2.4 feddans = 1 hectare = 2.47 acres) of cropland destroyed
- 25 schools destroyed
- 50% of animal fodder crop submerged

WHITE NILE STATE

- 10,000 homeless
- 40 health posts, 20 schools, and 1,000 sanitation installations damaged/destroyed
- 15,500 feddans of cropland submerged

KASSALA STATE

- 10,000 homeless
- 2 schools destroyed

GEDAREF STATE

- 18,000 homeless
- roads, schools, and other structures damaged

SINNAR STATE

- 1,000 homeless
- 25 villages affected

NORTH KORDOFAN

- Flash floods in Um Ruwaba province
- 5,000 affected

KHARTOUM

- 1,000 families homeless
- 2,000 have lost part of home
- 500 pit latrines collapsed
- high incidence of malaria and diarrhoea

THAILAND (flooding in China affects commodities)

Flooding in China has caused production of chicken and other livestock to be severely affected. As a result Thailand's exports, earnings, and share of the market have increased significantly.

Volume will have increased 30% by the end of the year, and the value is expected to be 60-70% higher than last year -- partly because of the weak currency.

TURKEY

A small forest fire (15-20) hectares on the outskirts of Istanbul has sent smoke and haze over the city.

U.S.A. (Florida)(Hurricane Georges)

Residents living on barrier islands and in flood zones were urged to evacuate at hurricane Georges approaches. The number of people was some 100,000 living in Miami beach and throughout Miami-Dade County. Shelters, capable of housing 10,000 people opened up. Other reports state 750,000 people as far north as Fort Lauderdale have been told to evacuate.

U.S.A. (Florida -- Key West)(Hurricane Georges)

Mandatory evacuation.

U.S.A (Puerto Rico)(Hurricane Georges)

Preliminary estimates for the damage caused by hurricane Georges at \$2 billion USD. At least 11 people are dead. 20,000 displaced -- possibly 50,000.

VIETNAM (expected La Nina)

La Nina is expected to cause heavy rains and flooding in Vietnam according to Pham Duc Thi of the National General Department of HydroMeteorology of Vietnam -- quoted in the Lao Dong newspaper. He also said the normally heavy storms of August and September would arrive later in the year. Harvesting of the Vietnam coffee crop normally begins in October-November and lasts until January.

October 2, 1998

BANGLADESH (flooding)

460,000 people had so far contracted diarrhoea related to the recent flooding. 599 have died from the ailment. Official estimates state that 1,500 died from floods.

BENIN (flooding)

Reports of recent flooding state that 20,000 people have been left homeless. 20,000 tonnes of cereal grain also thought to be lost.

CHINA (flooding)

Estimates of damage incurred during the most recent flooding:

- 15.85 million displaced
- 223 million affected
- 3,000 dead
- 4.97 million houses destroyed
- 21 million hectares of land flooded
- 12.05 million houses damaged
- 14 million people homeless
- 2.9 million people living on dikes

GUINEA (famine/drought)

12 are dead from food shortages related to drought.

HURRICANE GEORGES

St. Kitts and Nevis:

- 60% of homes damaged

- 25% of homes destroyed
- 6,000 unable to work
- 8,500 unable to attend school
- total damage could equal \$445 million
- 5 dead

Nevis

- \$2.5 million in damage to agri. sector
- \$1 million in damage to electrical utilities
- 30-40 homes received minor damage

Antigua and Barbuda

- 783 homes with minor damage
- 979 homes with major damage
- 390 homes completely destroyed
- 3,338 people homeless

Barbuda

- estimated \$160 million in damage

Dominican Republic

- 134,836 displaced (State Secretary's Public Health and Welfare Office)
- 208 dead (State Secretary's Public Health and Welfare Office)
- 865,510 displaced (PAHO estimate)
- 400,000 homeless (PAHO estimate)
- 100% of roads damaged
- 60% of bridges damaged
- total damage estimated at \$1.2 billion
- agri. sector damage \$260 million
- 90% destruction of agri. sector

Haiti

- 87 dead
- 29 serious injuries
- 9 missing
- additional 62 unconfirmed deaths
- 25,000 displaced

INDIA (flooding)

Flooding occurring in August and September of this year affected many endangered animals in the Kaziranga National Park. 35 one-horned rhinos died while the rising waters forced many other endangered animals to higher ground where many were killed by poachers.

LIBERIA (flooding)

10 people have died and five thousand have been displaced after Lake Piso flooded.

RUSSIA (forest fire)

Forest and brush fires in Eastern Russia and Sakhalin have burned 136 houses. In total 500,000 hectares have been consumed. 249 families (683 persons) are homeless.

SOUTH KOREA (Tropical Storm Yanni -- floods)

Flooding related to Tropical Storm Yanni has killed 27 while leaving another 28 missing. 622,440 acres of rice paddies (25% of the total cropland) has been flooded. 1,326 homes damaged and 4 vessels sunk. 34 roads,

1 plane route, and 93 marine shipping routes were temporarily closed. Flooding in August left 270 people dead and 65 missing while forcing 16,000 to be displaced.

October 9, 1998

BENIN (flooding)

GOB flood reports estimate 2,500 people have been left homeless while 20,000 tonnes of cereal crop destroyed. UN-OCHA investigations estimate the number of people homeless from the flood could reach 20,000.

BRAZIL (fire)

Fires continue.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (Hurricane Georges)

Death toll at 210.

HAITI (Hurricane Georges)

Death toll at 147.

HURRICANES

Five Atlantic storms this year, including hurricane Georges, have created \$3 billion in claims during the 3rd quarter.

HURRICANE GEORGES

Total loss to U.S. and islands is estimated at \$2.5 billion USD by insurance companies.

LIBERIA (flooding)

Flooding of Lake Piso has left 5,000 homeless.

RUSSIA (fires)

Fires continue.

THAILAND (flash floods)

Flash floods in the Thong Pha Phum district.

U.S.A. (California)

Fires burning since Monday have ravaged 30,000 acres of brushland. It is estimated that \$925,000 were lost to structural damage. It cost \$2 million to fight and contain the fires.

U.S.A. (Florida)(Hurricane Georges)

\$325 million USD loss.

U.S.A. (Louisiana)(Hurricane Georges)

\$15 million USD loss.

U.S.A. (Mississippi)(Hurricane Georges)

\$310 million USD loss.

U.S.A. (Puerto Rico)(Hurricane Georges)

\$1.25 million in housing assistance sent to aid 732 residents. Total damage estimated at \$1.7 billion USD.

U.S.A. (U.S. Virgin Islands)

\$50 million.

October 16, 1998

BRAZIL (flood)

Three times the amount of rain has caused heavy flooding in the southern states. In Parana 74 municipalities incurred heavy damage -- 23 of these have declared a state of emergency. 8,500 were left homeless and 10,684 houses were damaged in Parana. Crops, such as beans, corn and soy, were also damaged.

IRAN (flood)

On October 8 and 9 between 100-200 mm of rainfall caused flooding. The resulting damage occurred in the Caspian Provinces of Gilan and Mazandaran. 13 people are dead from the floods and related landslides or mountain frost. Over 37 bridges have been damaged and 1,000 houses inundated.

MOZAMBIQUE (drought)

Drought induced famine occurring in southern areas.

NIGERIA (flood)

Heavy rains caused the Kainji Dam on the Niger River to overflow. 60 villages in the Kwara State have been flooded and 100,000 people have been left homeless.

PHILIPPINES (typhoon Zeb)

110,000 people were evacuated from flood prone areas in the Philippines as Zeb approached. The Philippines was only indirectly hit by the typhoon, but 43 people have died and \$1.15 million USD worth of damage occurred to crops. Zeb triggered 20 landslides.

RUSSIA (fire)

Fires have affected the Khabarovsk region and Sakhalin island of Russia. In Khabarovsk it is estimated that nearly 2 million hectares have been burned. Since the beginning of 1998, 1028 individual fires have been reported. Some 5.3 million USD have been spent directly on fighting all the fires. Direct economic damage is estimated at 27 million USD.

SUDAN (floods)

63 Arab nomads as a result of flooding in western Sudan. The total floods before the most recent fatalities was at 50. Over the past three months flooding has affected 13 of Sudan's 29 states.

TAIWAN (typhoon Zeb)

11 dead or missing.

October 23, 1998

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (recovery from hurricane Georges)

Nearly a month after hurricane Georges hit the Dominican Republic -- killing ~300 people, displacing 100,000, and damaging 85% of the homes -- Dominicans are finding it difficult to obtain food and drinking water.

INDIA (floods)

Heavy rains that began last Monday have caused flooding in the south Indian state of Andhra Pradesh. Associated deaths have climbed to 230. Estimates of economic loss are \$528.6 million USD. 75,000 houses and 880 hectares of crops were also lost to the recent flooding. 75,000 people were evacuated to relief camps.

INDIA (cyclone)

A cyclone off the Mumbo coast and nearby Daman area has left 250 fisherman missing.

JAPAN (typhoon Zeb)

12 dead.

MEXICO (tropical storm Madeline and Lester)

Two tropical storms prompted the GOM to evacuate 3,000 people.

SUDAN (disease threat)

As the flood waters recede and become stagnant, many international groups have expressed concern over disease control.

TYPHOON BABS (Philippines; heading to HK)

Fatalities in the Philippines from typhoon Babs have been reported between 80 and 93 persons. 250,000 people have been forced to flee their home. Estimated damage to crops and infrastructure is at \$32 million. 8,000 homes have been destroyed.

TYPHOON ZEB (Philippines and Taiwan)

In Philippines and Taiwan, it is estimated that 100 people were killed by Typhoon Zeb.

U.S.A. (Texas)(storms, tornadoes, and flooding)

Tornadoes and flooding caused by severe storms have left 13 people dead.

ZAMBIA (famine threat)

Vice-President, Christon Tembo, expressed concern over the food situation in Zambia as food stocks are at "critical levels." Many people are reportedly eating wild roots. The vice-president blamed drought for the food situation. One hundred thousand tonnes of maize have been imported.

October 29, 1998

CHINA (typhoon Babs)

Typhoon Babs caused five deaths and \$58 million USD worth of damage to the Fujian province.

CHINA (summer floods)

The official newspaper (Xinhua) stated that oil production was expected to be unhurt this year despite the temporary shut down of wells caused by flooding. The corn harvest is also believed to be unaffected. In fact the projections for this year's harvest are up 10.8% from 1997 production.

HONDURAS (hurricane Mitch)

100 houses destroyed, 67,000 people evacuated.

HURRICANE MITCH

Total fatalities reported -- 32

Total number of displaced persons -- 150,000

GUATEMALA (hurricane Mitch)

5,000 evacuated from flash flood areas.

November 4 1998

BANGLADESH (July-September flooding)

It is now estimated that the damage from flooding in Bangladesh cost \$4.3 billion USD (~10% of GDP). 1,500 people died while millions were left homeless. As a result the GOB is making plans to dredge rivers and build dams.

BELIZE (hurricane Mitch)

No reported deaths, thousands evacuated.

COSTA RICA (hurricane Mitch -- floods)

4 dead, 4 missing

EL SALVADOR (hurricane Mitch)

Estimated 222 dead, 135 missing, 50,000 homeless.

GUATEMALA (hurricane Mitch)

President Alvaro Arzu said 157 people were killed. 51,000 were evacuated. 21 bridges destroyed, 30 highways blocked.

HONDURAS (hurricane Mitch -- mudslide)

An estimated 7,000 people are thought to be dead. 2 million are homeless. 70% of crops destroyed. Col. Rene Osorio (national emergency commission) said 11,100 are also missing.

KENYA (El Nino)

The African Development Fund granted Kenya \$19.61 in an emergency loan to deal with damage caused by flooding related to the 1997-98 El Nino. This is to include rehabilitation of 405 km of road, bridges, culverts, drains, and embankments.

NICARAGUA (hurricane Mitch)

Estimated 1,800 to 2,400 people are dead. 1,817 missing. 500,000 homes damaged. 420,000 homeless.

November 20, 1998

CHINA (summer 1998 floods)

Vice-Minister of Civil Affairs Fan Baojun stated that the final death toll of the summer 1998 floods will remain at 3,656.

COSTA RICA (hurricane Mitch)

14 million pounds of coffee bean crop ruined.

EL SALVADOR (hurricane Mitch)

240 fatalities, 235 missing, 84,000 affected persons, 10,372 houses destroyed or damaged.

GUATEMALA (hurricane Mitch)

263 fatalities, 121 missing, 105,700 affected persons, 21,111 houses destroyed or damaged.

HONDURAS (hurricane Mitch)

6,600 fatalities, 8,000 missing, 2,100,000 affected persons, 70,000 houses destroyed or damaged. 90% of banana industry destroyed (27 million plants). \$255 million in annual banana exports for the next 2 years lost.

IRAN (forest fire)

370,000 acres have burned in four days of forest fires affected the Arasbaran forest region. Only two of the several major fires have been controlled.

MALAYSIA (floods)

Monsoon rains (reportedly enhanced by La Niña) have displaced ~7,000 people. (4,185 from Penang and 2,979 from Kedah)

NICARAGUA (hurricane Mitch)

2,447 fatalities, 885 missing, 868,000 affected persons, 36,368 houses destroyed or damaged.

UKRAINE (floods)

10 days of rain has killed 14 people, displaced 9,000, and affected 120 towns/villages. 1,940 houses destroyed and 1,295 partially destroyed.

VIETNAM (flooding)

Following last months floods which killed 52 and caused \$13.7 million in damage, new flooding -- related to tropical storm Chip -- has killed 17 people and caused \$7.4 million in damage.

November 27, 1998

CHILE (drought)

Drought has lowered the water level in Chile's two largest dams to 33 percent full of their normal capacity. Rainfall is down in 21 of 22 cities. Drinking water is not threatened for the next year and a half since it makes up only 5-8 percent of the total water use.

CHINA (disease)

There is an increased likelihood of epidemics occurring in areas recently affected by the summer floods of 1998. Doctors Without Frontiers noted that free medical aid and supplies given during and shortly after the flooding has ceased. The relief group also noted that the now homeless and temporarily displaced populations will have to winter without adequate food, clothing, or medical care.

BANGLADESH (storm)

100,000 evacuated. 200 fishermen still missing from the Bay of Bengal following a weekend storm.

EUROPE (cold front and blizzard)

71 people throughout Europe have died as a result of unseasonably cold weather and blizzards. (24 fatalities in Romania and Bulgaria. 36 fatalities in Poland. 3 deaths in Italy. 200 people were stranded on a highway in Romania.) The cold weather follows flooding which has displaced many in Hungary and the Ukraine as well as causing extensive damage in Hungary, Slovenia, and Romania.

INDIA (La Niña)

A Indian meteorological official has been quoted as saying La Niña will bring plentiful rains during the northeast and southeast monsoon season.

INDIA (storm)

20,000 people were evacuated as a storm approached from the Bay of Bengal. 100 fisherman are missing. 10,000 huts have been reported destroyed and 20,000 trees have been uprooted.

INDONESIA (fires of 1997-98)

It is now estimated that 7.5 million acres were damaged or destroyed as a result of fire in 1997-98.

PHILIPPINES (typhoon Babs and Zeb)

A review of the damage from typhoons Babs and Zeb has quoted nearly 400 people dead and damaged more than 140,000.

SOMALIA (flooding)

The river Juba burst its banks and flooded 25 villages in the Middle Juba Region.

VIETNAM (typhoon Dawn)

Combined effects of cold weather and typhoon Dawn have resulted in 187 people dead, 50 injured, 2 missing persons, 2 million homeless, 416,428 houses damaged and 1,321 houses destroyed. The provinces affected were Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua thien-Hue, Da Nang, Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, Khanh Hoa, and Dak Lak. Total economic loss is estimated at more than 400 billion dong (28 million USD). The typhoon is thought to be the worst to strike Vietnam in 30 years.

December 4, 1998

AUSTRALIA (fires)

Forest fires burning around Linton are threatening the town. 375 acres of forest have burned.

BRAZIL (fires)

Forest fires continue to burn.

CHINA (cold weather/post-flood reconstruction)

Many of the displaced people are finding it difficult to cope with the cold weather which follows the summer floods of 1998. Much of the relief efforts have ceased. In Inner Mongolia 50,000 people (~20% of the population) lost their homes.

HONDURAS (hurricane Mitch)

Fatality figures were lowered by the GOH to 5,657. A regional governor was suspended for reportedly inflating the numbers of deaths under her division.

HONDURAS (flooding)

Following the floods and landslides associated with hurricane Mitch,, 20,000 were evacuated as renewed flooding was reported in Chamelecon and Choloma.

RUSSIA (cold weather)

What is being touted as the coldest winter in three decades is compounding the economic situation of food and fuel shortages in certain areas of the country.

SOMALIA (famine threat)

Severe floods and drought over the past year have ruined crops in the Juba region. Families are now moving in search of food.

UKRAINE (floods)

212 buildings flooded, 2,002 buildings destroyed, 303 buildings partially destroyed, 6,967 buildings requiring repair. 5,609 displaced persons.

UNITED STATES (El Nino)(Florida)

The effect of El Nino has reportedly caused the vegetable production in Florida to drop by 30%. Florida supplies the nation with 90% of its commercial crop. The cost to farmers was \$60 million in lost crops.

UNITED STATES (fires -- hot spots)

Hot spots from both wildfires and controlled burns scattered across a large area in the southeastern United States.

VIETNAM (typhoon Dawn and storms affecting provinces from Nov. 11-26, 1998)

267 fatalities, 16 missing, 92 injured, 9,821 houses destroyed, 470,176 houses damaged, 143 schools destroyed, 1,484 schools damaged, 81,224 hectares of paddy damaged, 33,708 hectares of other cropland damaged. 2.4 million persons affected. 15 provinces affected: Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua thien Hue, Quang Nam, Da Nang, Quang Ngai, Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, Khanh Hoa, Ninh Thuan, Binh Thuan, Dac Lac, Kon Tum, Lam Dong, Gia Lai.

VIETNAM (typhoon Dawn)

\$18.4 million in damages.

December 11, 1998

BRAZIL (fires)

Forest fires continue to burn.

EL SALVADOR (hurricane Mitch)

17 bridges damaged and crop loss of 10-20%. The GOES has said it expects inflation to remain below 4%.

NICARAGUA (hurricane Mitch)

- 1,500 km of paved road destroyed

- 6,500 km of unpaved road destroyed
- \$1.5 billion in economic losses
- 146,000 houses affected (24,000 destroyed)
- corn crop: 40-50% loss
- bean crop: >50% <80% loss
- rice crop: 23-35% loss
- peanut crop: 30% loss
- coffee crop: 30% loss
- livestock: 12,000-15,000 head lost

PHILIPPINES (typhoon Faith)

The eleventh typhoon of the season, Faith, has caused 1 fatality and left 14 missing. Power lines in three provinces were also affected.

UKRAINE (floods)

17 fatalities, 1 person missing, 2,695 buildings destroyed or partially destroyed, 7,820 people displaced. 769 km of damaged or destroyed roads. 12 bridges destroyed and 48 bridges damaged.

VIETNAM (flooding and storms)

203 dead, 470,000 houses flooded, 56,000 hectares of rice paddy flooded, \$48 million USD in losses.

December 18, 1998

BRAZIL (fires)

Forest fires continue to burn.

FIJI (drought)

El Nino induced drought affected the country from September 1997 to August 1998. The rains are expected to be insufficient during the current wet season and into the dry season of 1999. 75% of the country is affected by drought. GDP growth is projected to be -4% and inflation 7%.

PERU (El Nino)

The 1997-98 ENSO warm event (El Nino) is being blamed for Peru's poor fish catch this year. In 1997 7.5 million tonnes were caught, this year the catch dropped to 3.8 million tonnes.

PHILIPPINES (typhoon Faith)

Typhoon Faith hit the Philippines toward the end of the week of 12.6.98-12.12.98. As of 12.15.98 it is thought 8 people are dead, 5 injured, 17 missing, 9,214 displaced families (51,785 people). Evacuated 3,360 families (20,419 people). \$13 million USD worth of agricultural and infrastructure damage. 17,703 tonnes of rice crop lost. 77 tonnes of corn lost. 7,595 hectares of total farm land affected. This year 5 million people in the Philippines have been affected by a series of typhoons. Typhoons Zeb and Babs previously caused \$100 million in losses to farm output.

UKRAINE (floods)

Snow and cold weather threaten those previously affected by the floods. Temperatures are around minus 4-9 degrees centigrade. Impacts from the previous flooding:

- 17 dead
- 1 missing
- 2,695 buildings destroyed or damaged
- 10,538 people displaced
- 46.8 km of road damaged/destroyed

UNITED STATES (drought)

Drought affecting the southern Great Plains and the Mid-Atlantic States has cost an estimated \$7 billion USD. The drought of 1988-89 cost the \$39 billion.

UNITED STATES (hot spots)

Hot spots have been noted in several areas in the southeastern United States.

December 29, 1998

HONDURAS (hurricane Mitch)

As a result of hurricane Mitch, 65% of the country's foreign debt will be forgiven in order to shift needed resources to reconstruction.

INDONESIA (floods)

Flooding in Java washed away 100 homes, flooded 2,400 other homes, and inundated hundreds of acres of rice and other crops. 18 villages were affected as the Kelawing River swelled. A dam also overflowed.

IRELAND (storms)

160,000 homes were affected or left without power as a result of Christmas storms.

SOMALIA (drought)

It is estimated that some 10,000 Somalis have crossed into Ethiopia as a result of drought induced famine.

UNITED KINGDOM (storms)

More than 50 flood alerts have been issued in western England as storms affecting both the UK and Ireland have killed seven people.

UNITED STATES (winter storm)

Winter storms in the Pacific, South, and Northeast left many without power.

January 8, 1999

CANADA (snow storm)

7 deaths.

INDONESIA (landslides)

A landslide occurring in Bali on Jan. 7 has caused 33 fatalities. The landslide was located 20 miles north of Denpasar in Pupuan.

ISRAEL (floods)

Flash flooding occurred Dec. 31 after months of droughts. 8 inches reportedly fell in the Carmel region. Although it is reported that several thousand were evacuated, estimates of damage have not been made.

MALAYSIA (floods)

Floods caused by heavy rains this month are expected to cause palm oil output to drop sharply. More than 2,500 people were displaced by the floods. 1,515 people in six districts of Pahang were evacuated. Flooding also affected Johor, Terengganu, and Kelantan.

PAKISTAN (drought)

The GOP is enforcing power cuts as drought has caused a shortage of electricity produced from thermal and hydro power stations

PERU (El Nino)

The combined effects of El Nino and the Asian economic crisis are now being blamed for Peru's low 1998 economic growth rate of 1.5 percent. In 1997 growth was 7.4 percent.

TANZANIA (famine threat)

GOT reported a maize deficit of 600,000 tonnes -- largely from poor weather in 1998. GOT says at least 13 of 20 regions have been seriously affected by the shortage. 8 are said to be vulnerable to famine.

UNITED STATES (California)(El Nino)

El Nino is now being blamed for \$1 billion USD worth of damage in California.

UNITED STATES (Florida)(tornadoes)

20 homes were destroyed as 4 tornadoes touched down in Bay County, Florida. Tornadoes were also reported in three additional counties. Several thousand were without power on Jan. 3rd.

UNITED STATES (California)(cost of disaster)

California's Office of Emergency Services reported that natural disasters cost the state \$50 billion USD and killed some 237 people during the 1990s. (Aside from climate-weather impacts, the figures represent geophysical disasters as well as man-made -- such as riots.)

UNITED STATES (snow storm)

48 deaths. Hundreds of thousands temporarily without power (450,000 along the east coast alone) and travel delays

January 15, 1999

CANADA (snow storm)

400+ Canadian soldiers arrived in Toronto on Thursday to help the city cope with the latest snowstorms. The city has already experienced three times its normal snowfall

CANARY ISLANDS (storm)

Wind and rain have caused nearly \$415 million USD worth of damage over the past few days.

CHINA (drought)

Low precipitation, combined with high temperatures, has worsened a drought occurring in China's northern, wheat-growing region. Rainfall over most of China was 70% below average the State (China's) Meteorological Bureau reported. According to the Xinhua the northern provinces of Shanxi, Henan, Shaanxi, Gansu, Ningxia, and Shandong are affected by mild to severe drought in at least some areas. Some southern provinces are also experiencing drought -- Guangxi, Guangdong, Hunan, and Yunnan. Sugarcane production in Guangxi is expected to fall 2.0 million tonnes in the 98/99 season.

CHINA (winter conditions)

15% of the 300,000 families made homeless by the summer flooding are still without shelter or daily necessities the Xinhua reported. Local authorities have reportedly distributed 11 million coats and blankets to the displaced. 20,000 medical workers have also spread out to monitor the situation in Hunan.

CHINA (flooding)

The South China Morning Post reported a new survey of damage caused by the 1998 summer flooding increased fatalities from 3,656 to 4,150. Numbers also reported 5.6 million homes destroyed and 230 million affected by flooding.

HONDURAS (hurricane Mitch)

The GOH and private sector groups have agreed to fix prices on 22 basic consumer goods (at least until June) as inflation has significantly increased following hurricane Mitch. Mitch destroyed an estimated 70% of the crops. The price of beans increased nearly 40 percent this month while the price of rice increased nearly 1/3.

NEW ZEALAND (drought)

The Ministry of Agriculture (MAF) has warned of another approaching agricultural drought. If it occurs, it will be the second summer in a row. MAF is expected to brief the GONZ in late January.

SRI LANKA (flooding)

Heavy rains associated with the northeast monsoon have caused flooding in eastern sections of the country. 29,288 families have been affected and 2 people were reported dead. In addition the IFRC noted significant damage to paddies as irrigation systems/reservoirs were damaged. As reported by OCHA, administrative districts affected were Trincomalee, Vavuniya, Batticaloa, Polonnaruwa, Ampara, Badulla, and Mannar.

TANZANIA (famine threat)

Frederick Sumaye, Prime Minister of Tanzania, warned that without intervention 300,000 residents of the country's central Dodoma region faced starvation within the next 5 months. He went further to state that 12 of 20 regions within the country also faced acute food shortages. The GOT has blamed the Tanzanian food shortage on the drought which occurred in 1996-97 followed by El Nino related flooding in 1997/98, to severe weather and dry conditions experienced since September.

January 22, 1999

ALGERIA (snow storm)

Snowstorms have caused 8 reported fatalities in western Algeria. Landslides have also occurred in Greater Algiers.

FIJI (cyclone Dani)

Flooding, related to cyclone Dani, has reportedly displaced hundreds of people. 3 people were missing. The flooding occurred in the main sugar growing areas. Total impact on lives and agriculture has not been assessed, however 7 deaths have been reported. The towns of Ba, Nadi, and Lautoka were affected. Vanuatu was also affected by flooding -- no assessments yet.. On Friday, Fiji declared a natural disaster for parts of the country. The flooding caused by cyclone Dani follows a severe drought which destroyed 60% of the country's cane crop. Relief operations for the drought cost 25 million USD.

JORDAN (drought)

The GOJ approved aid packages to help its farmers affected by the current drought. Rainfall during December and January was reportedly well below normal -- some reports of only 2% in parts of the country.

LAOS (drought)

As reported by the European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO), the country of Laos recently suffered crop damage of nearly 70% in certain provinces. Delayed rains have led to a drought that has crippled the main rice crop for this season. In Sayaboury province an estimated 20,000 people are in need of assistance.

MOZAMBIQUE (flooding)

Heavy rains caused flooding in central and southern Mozambique. Fatalities numbered 3. People have also been displaced and cropland inundated, but the exact extent of the damage has not been reported. The road connecting Beira to Zimbabwe may be cut off by floodwaters. The GOM has reportedly expressed concern about flooding along the Pungue.

SOMALIA (drought, famine threat, disease)

The UN has warned that 300,000 people are at a very high risk of starvation. The harvest of food this coming month has already been viewed with pessimism as late rains and drought conditions weakened this season's crop. Last year's harvests were destroyed by El Nino related flooding. Doctors Without Borders (Medecins Sans Frontiers) confirmed that water shortages have led to outbreaks of disease in southern regions of Somalia -- in particular cholera.

SOUTH AFRICA (storm)

The AP reported that storms hit the villages of Mount Ayliff and Kokstad on Monday afternoon. 50 houses were destroyed. 21 fatalities occurred.

SOUTH AFRICA (La Nina)

La Nina has reportedly caused 50 fatalities in storm related events throughout the country this season.

THAILAND (1997-98 El Nino related water shortage)

Director of Thailand's agriculture ministry's climate division, Narong Piyabhan, was quoted for blaming the 1997-98 for lower than normal water reserves. Water reservoirs and dams are down nearly 3.69 billion cubic metres -- in 1997 for the similar period, reserves were at 7-8 billion cubic metres. GOT surveys show that reserves can only support 608,000 hectares of paddy -- 704,000 hectares have been reportedly planted.

UNITED STATES (tornadoes/severe storms)(Tennessee)

Severe storms and tornadoes affected parts of Tennessee during the evening of the seventeenth. Fatalities have been tallied at eight while ~100 people were reportedly injured. Damage from the storms included two UH-60 helicopters at the McKeller-Sipes Airport as well as damage to an estimated 600 homes throughout the state.

VANUATU (flooding, cyclone Dani)

See FIJI

January 29, 1999

KENYA (El Nino)

The GOK reported a record tea crop for 1998; 33% above 1997 harvests. Although rains, floods, and landslides associated with the 1997-98 El Nino caused significant damage throughout the country, the added precipitation aided the tea crop.

NETHERLANDS (1998 floods)

From the 19,000 persons making damage claims accrued from the 1998 floods, it is now estimated that the event caused \$470 million in damages.

PHILIPPINES (El Nino and Typhoons)

The Philippine GDP contracted 0.5% in 1998, largely as a result of drops in agricultural production. The situation is being blamed on the combined effect of the Asian economic crisis as well as El Nino and a bout of typhoons.

SOUTH AFRICA (La Nina)

Ministers from the GOSA have blamed the recent severe storms and series of tornadoes on La Nina. Since December tornadoes have killed at least 38 people while injuring another 550.

SWITZERLAND (blizzard)

Some of the heaviest snowfall in roughly 15 years fell over Davos last Thursday. Aside from local damages, the storm interrupted the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum.

THAILAND (drought)

The 1997-98 El Nino is being blamed for the drought situation over much of Thailand. Water reserves held behind dams are at 3.69 billion cubic metres. Last year the water reserves held at 7-8 billion while in 1996 they peaked at 14.5 billion.

UNITED STATES (fires)

Fires continue in the Southeastern United States.

February 5, 1999

CHINA (drought)

GOC Meteorological Administration stated 6.7 million hectares of farmland in the wheat growing regions of the north had been severely hit the recent drought.

CHINA (flood)

WFP renewed appeals for victims of the 1998 summer floods, stating 6 million people were still in need of food aid.

HONDURAS (hurricane Mitch)

The GOH official estimate of fatalities caused by hurricane Mitch was at 5,657, however new legislation may soon declare the 8,058 still missing as officially deceased. This would allow surviving families inheritance rights and capable of making insurance claims. It would also push the official death toll in Honduras up to nearly 14,000.

S.E. EUROPE (snowstorm)

Snow storms and severe weather has affected much of SE Europe. Roads, electric and telephones services have been disrupted throughout Italy, Greece and Romania.

SOMALIA (drought, famine threat)

The UN WFP warned that drought has once again threatened hundreds of thousands in Somalia with food shortages.

UKRAINE (flooding)

The IFRC and GOU have reported that flooding on November 1998 caused 17 fatalities, destroyed 1426 houses, severely damaged another 1344, and slightly damaged another 2887 houses. 769 km of roads were destroyed/damaged as well as 48 bridges. 24,340 people were displaced in 269 settlements.

February 12, 1999

CANARY ISLANDS (storm)

Wind and rain have caused nearly \$415 million USD worth of damage over the past few days.

SRI LANKA (flooding)

Heavy rains associated with the northeast monsoon have caused flooding in eastern sections of the country. 29,288 families have been affected and 2 people were reported dead. In addition the IFRC noted significant damage to paddies as irrigation systems/reservoirs were damaged. As reported by OCHA, administrative districts affected were Trincomalee, Vavuniya, Batticaloa, Polonnaruwa, Ampara, Badulla, and Mannar.

February 19, 1999

EUROPE (blizzards)

Snow storms and blizzards continue throughout central Europe leaving many villages and settlements isolated. Hungary, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic have called in their armies to clear roads and evacuate the stranded.

FIRE (Argentina, Chile)

Forest and brush fires are burning in Argentina and Chile. Images available at:
<http://www.osei.noaa.gov/updaterecent.html>

SOUTH AFRICA (El Nino and disease)

British scientists, as reported in the journal of Nature, have linked outbreaks of African Horse Sickness (AHS) to El Nino episodes. Climate changes associated with El Nino reportedly influence population explosions of the insect responsible for spreading AHS -- the biting midge.

THAILAND (flooding)

The Nakorn Srithammarat, Surat Thani, and Songkhla provinces of southern Thailand were affected by a series of flash floods. 20,000 people were evacuated from flood prone areas. 3 fatalities have been reported. It is estimated that 96,000 hectares of farmland has been damaged.

UKRAINE (flood threat)

The Ivano-Frankivsk, Lviv, Mykolaiv, and Zakarpattia regions are again threatened by floods following snow build up and recent storms. Two months earlier flooding in these same regions resulted in 17 fatalities, 2000 houses destroyed, and 100 settlements/villages affected.

UNITED STATES (Virginia)(Christmas Eve ice storm)

Dollar losses from the ice storm affecting Virginia on Christmas Eve are estimated at \$20 million USD. 400,000 were without power.

February 26, 1999

EUROPE (avalanches)

Snow avalanches have taken 36 lives throughout the Alpines. It is feared that the above normal snow cover throughout Europe may lead to spring flooding.

GERMANY (flooding)

Flooding along the Rhine, resulting from heavy rains and melting snow, has closed a large sections of the river and connecting rivers to shipping traffic.

INDONESIA (rainfall)

Heavy rainfall over Sumatra is expected to delay the coffee harvest until April. It is unclear how this will affect the overall production -- originally expected to be up 40,000 tonnes from last year.

MOZAMBIQUE (floods and harvest)

Although floods have affected regions of the country since January (Gaza, Sofala, Zambezia), it is believed this upcoming harvest will exceed the 1.7 million mt grain target. In 1997 100,000 hectares of crop was destroyed. This year only 44,000 hectares were destroyed by the floods.

PHILIPPINES (flooding)

At least eight people have died in parts of the country -- particularly Lanao del Norte -- as flash floods followed heavy rains.

UNITED STATES (Nor'easter)

A Nor'easter affecting New England cut power to thousands of residents in Cape Cod and Nantucket. 35,000 people were stranded at Logan International in Boston as heavy snow downed planes and cancelled flights.

March 5, 1999

BRAZIL (flash floods)

7 people have reportedly died as flash floods affected San Pablo on March 1st. City authorities declared a state of emergency after 120mm of rain fell in less than an hour causing severe flash floods. The Tamanduatei River also flooded and has reportedly washed away many homes in a series of mudslides in the poorer areas of San Paulo.

COLOMBIA (fires)

Fires currently burning in Colombia. Images available at:
<http://www.osei.noaa.gov/>

HUNGARY (flooding)

Following record snowfalls this winter, an early thaw in February has resulted in floods throughout the country. 620,000 acres of cropland have been inundated -- primarily autumn wheat. The floods are also preventing sowing of spring wheat and barley.

PHILIPPINES (flooding)

Flash floods occurred along the Larapan River on Feb. 21. Reported impacts include 13 fatalities, 21 people missing, 79 injured, 203 houses destroyed, 167 houses damaged, 2,609 persons affected in Kauswagan, Linamon, and Bacolod. Total damages estimated at \$3.24 million USD.

New flooding occurred in Gingoog on March 1st and 2nd displacing some 1,300 people. 10 surrounding villages have also reportedly been inundated.

RUSSIA (Sakhalin storms)

19 settlements in the Sakhalin and Kurile islands were affected this past weekend by strong storms.

SOUTHEAST ASIA (fires)

Fires burning in Laos and Thailand. Images available at:

<http://www.osei.noaa.gov>

TANZANIA (previous drought)

Finance Minister Daniel Yona stated that despite drought, Tanzania experienced improved economic growth in 1998/99.

UNITED STATES (storms)

Powerful storms in the Northwest have left more than 200,000 people temporarily without electricity.

More storms and tornadoes in the South and Southeast resulted in 5 fatalities.

UKRAINE (flooding)

New flooding has occurred as warm weather is melting heavy snowfalls of the winter. 230 houses have been inundated. Roads in the Zakarpattia region were also flooded. Previous flooding during the end of 1998, reportedly killed 17 people and displaced some 2000.

VENEZUELA (fire)

Fires currently burning in Venezuela. Images available at:

<http://www.osei.noaa.gov>

VIETNAM (drought and flood related hunger)

The AP reported that 1.4 million people are hungry in Vietnam as a result of floods and drought, which occurred over the past few months. Areas most affected are in the central and northern regions. As reported by the AP, 1.8 million people in southern and central Vietnam short of portable water according to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

March 12, 1999

CENTRAL EUROPE (floods)

Snow thaws combined with rainfall have resulted in a series of floods and landslides throughout Central Europe.

Hungary: 600 evacuated. 600,000 hectares of farmland inundated. GOH is spending \$8.5 million to strengthen dams in the northeast.

Romania: 12 landslides. 110 homes destroyed. 113,000 hectares flooded. Railways/roads also damaged.

COLOMBIA (fire)

Fires currently burning in Colombia. Images available at: <http://www.osei.noaa.gov/>

HUNGARY (flooding)

Hungary has declared a state of emergency as a result of flooded caused by rains and melting snow. Ongoing flooding in eastern Hungary (Szabolcs-Szatmar-Bereg county the worst affected) has resulted in the evacuation of 550 people. 200 towns have already been affected as well as 800,000 acres of inundated farmland. Other reports have claimed 432,000 acres of flooded cropland.

MOZAMBIQUE (floods)

Recent flooding across Mozambique, but particularly in the Inhambane province, has stranded nearly 200,000 people. The floods are said to be the worst in 40 years. South Africa has responded by sending troops and aircraft. Less than 20 fatalities have occurred. There is now concern that the floods could result in epidemics or food shortages in regions of the country.

PHILIPPINES (1997-98 El Nino related drought)

GOP Economic Planning Secretary, Felipe Medalla, stated drought related to the 1997-98 El Nino caused agricultural production in 1998 to decline by 6.6%.

SOMALIA (drought and cholera)

According to a Reuters report, a cholera epidemic has occurred in the drought affected Bay region of southern Somalia. Some 200 fatalities have resulted this week. It was also reported that many people in the region are wandering in search of water and to escape insecure situations.

UNITED KINGDOM (Yorkshire flooding)

Rains and melting snow caused flooding throughout Yorkshire. According to some local news agencies, it is the worst flooding in 65 years. Impacts not yet reported.

VENEZUELA (fire)

Fires currently burning in Venezuela. Images available at: <http://www.osei.noaa.gov/>

VIETNAM (drought)

Less than normal rainfall this year has apparently aggravated rat and insect infestations. Despite this the current rice crop (ending its harvest by the end of March) is expected to be 1.3 million tons; lower than previously projected, but higher than last years crop of 1.2 million tons.

March 19, 1999

HUNGARY (flood)

Floods caused by rainfall and snow thaws have destroyed 3,000 houses in 202 settlements.

ISRAEL (drought)

Extended drought in Israel has reduced its water resources such that it cannot meet the terms of the 1994 peace accords. Under the agreement Israel must supply Jordan with 55 million cubic meters of water from the Yamouk River each year. The river runs into the Sea of Galilee, which is currently at its lowest level since 1908.

KIRIBATI (drought)

As a result of drought having lasted over a year, Kiribati has declared a state of emergency and requested international assistance.

MOZAMBIQUE (floods)

Confirmed impacts, resulting from floods affecting the center and south of Mozambique earlier in the year, total 32 fatalities and seventy thousand hectares of crops destroyed. Transportation infrastructure has also been severely damaged and is inhibiting relief supplies being sent to affected regions.

VIETNAM (drought)

The GOV Department of Irrigation, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development reported that the 1998 rain season ended a month early in the northern mountainous and midland provinces. The water level in rivers and streams is reportedly 20-30 percent lower than normal and salt water is seeping into paddy areas. 5,000 hectares of rice is threatened and it is suspected that 15,000 to 20,000 ha of rice could be affected if the drought continues. It has also been estimated that 1.7 million people currently do not have enough water for domestic use. In addition some 1.4 million people lack food in 15 provinces.

March 26, 1999

AUSTRALIA (cyclone Vance)

Tropical cyclone Vance hit northwestern Australia. Thousands were evacuated and hundreds of homes destroyed. Exact estimates have not been reported, but damage is expected to cost hundreds of millions of dollars.

BANGLADESH (1998 floods)

The Hindustan Times reported that the floods of last year are expected to reduce the country's gross domestic product (GDP) to 3.8 percent growth -- 6.8 percent growth is expected for FY1999. Damage from the flooding caused \$2 billion USD worth of damage and affected 30 million people. At times nearly three-fourths of the country was inundated.

CHINA (drought)

Extended drought in the northeastern regions of China is causing a drought and threatening the wheat crop in five provinces.

CHINA (1998 floods)

Following the 1998 summer floods, China has reviewed the country's estimated 85,000 dams. The Ministry of Water Resources noted that over half were in need of urgent repairs.

UNITED STATES (fires)(Florida)

Dry conditions over Florida since January has resulted in more than 700 fires which has burned a total of 24,000 acres. Images of current hot spots available at:

<http://www.osei.noaa.gov/>

VIETNAM (drought)

Food shortages resulting from drought have severely affected 2.3 million people in half of the 61 provinces. Vietnam's total population is roughly 79 million.

Severe weather in the form of droughts, floods, and tropical storms has affected the country for nearly 18 months. Substantial relief from the current drought is not expected until May -- the typical rainy season begins in May and lasts till October. Rainfall during the 1998 rain season was only 50-70 percent of normal in many parts of the country. Many streams, rivers, and water reservoirs are 20-30 percent lower than normal.

April 10, 1999

BANGLADESH (tornado)

A tornado hit northern Bangladesh on March 26. It killed 2 people, injured 60, and made nearly 100,000 people homeless.

BANGLADESH (storm)

On April 7 a storm killed 7 people and injured another 200.

BANGLADESH (water shortage)

Several hundred people rioted in Dhaka in complaint of a water shortage. The GOB is currently producing a total of 2,000 megawatts of electricity compared to a needed 2,400. Only 960 million liters of water per day are being produced -- 1.4 billion liters a day are needed.

BHUTAN (forest fires)

Wildfires have burned 30,000 acres throughout the country since the beginning of 1999. A total of 100 fires have been reported.

BOLIVIA (flood)

Flooding along the Beni river in mid-March has affected 1,000 individuals and destroyed 120 homes.

CHINA (flood)

On March 28 flash floods near Xintai city in Hubei killed four miners while leaving another 33 miners missing.

CHINA (forest fire)

Forest fires in Shanxi province claimed 23 people and destroyed 330 acres.

CHILE (drought)

Drought in 1998 severely lowered Chile's water reservoirs -- many of which supply the country with hydroelectric power. Power shortages had already been recognized and resulted in several planned outages to conserve energy. The GOC has expanded the outages and warned of possible daily blackouts. The outages are expected to last six to eight weeks.

COLOMBIA (flood)

400 people have been left homeless and 50 homes destroyed following heavy rainfall and floods. At least 9 people have reportedly died.

FIRE

Hotspots noted in Guatemala and Mexico. Images available at:
<http://www.osei.noaa.gov/>

INDIA (forest fire)

41 fires have destroyed 349.25 hectares of forest in the past few weeks. 6 people have died. The fires are occurring along the Ganga-Yamuna watershed, which the Hindustan Times reports as the most vital of four watersheds within the country. The Gangetic plains, and its inhabitants, are directly dependent upon the water shed.

INDONESIA (landslide)

Heavy rains triggered a landslide in Bali which killed three people. One person is still missing. 40 people have died from landslides affecting Bali over the past several months.

IRAN (drought)

Abnormally low rainfall is causing the worst drought in 30 years according to Iranian agriculture minister, Isa Kalantari. The GOI is planning to dig new wells in the southern regions most affected.

MALAWI (floods)

Flooding in the northern Karonga district of Malawi has displaced some 2,000 individuals. About twenty villages have been affected.

MOZAMBIQUE (floods)

Flooding in Mozambique since the beginning of the year has claimed 23 lives, affected 200,000 persons, and caused \$12.4 million USD worth of damage. 50,000 hectares have been inundated.

NIGERIA (storm)

After a storm off Nigerian coast sank a passenger ferry, 300 persons were reported missing. As of Friday the number of confirmed dead reached 100. 30 have survived and the rest are still missing.

UNITED STATES (California)(snow storm)

7 illegal immigrants from Mexico perished in mountains around San Diego County as a result of snowstorms. 130 more were rescued. The snowstorm also caused a single engine plane to crash. 4 were killed.

UNITED STATES (mid-west/Ohio)(tornadoes and storms)

Severe storms and tornadoes on Thursday and Friday injured at least 42 people and killed at least six people. In Ohio 400 homes in three counties were severely damaged. 40,000 individuals were without power. 17 mobile homes in Ashland, IL were destroyed by a tornado.

UNITED STATES (Louisiana)(tornadoes)

Tornadoes in northwestern Louisiana on Saturday and Sunday have caused between 6 and 9 fatalities. 100 were injured and 500 made homeless.

VENEZUELA (flooding)

Heavy rains caused a river to overflow in the Lara region. 5 bridges were destroyed and 500 were left homeless.

VIETNAM (1997-98 El Nino and dengue.)

The GOV announced that deaths from dengue fever rose from 226 in 1997 to 383 in 1998. Total reported infections rose from 107,000 to 238,866. The GOV blamed the recent El Nino for creating unusually warm and moist conditions in southern and central Vietnam.

April 16, 1999

AUSTRALIA (hailstorm)

A hailstorm in Sydney caused what is expected to be hundreds of millions of dollars worth of damage; the Insurance Council of Australia estimated repair costs could be \$190 million. 15,000 homes lost power, and several people were injured.

BELARUS (floods)

Unusually warm weather in late March of this year has increased the spring snow melt. The resulting floods have affected 18,002 structures (7,162 are houses) as well as damaged some 82.25 km of roads and 15 bridges. The total area flooded is 255,653 hectares, and roughly 2,000 people have been resettled. 17,950 people are involved at some level in responding to the flood situation. The GOB has estimated \$21.4 USD are needed for repairs.

There is also considerable concern from the GOB that the flooding waters, particularly along the Pripyat river, will carry radioactive waste left by Chernobyl. Flooding was occurring along all or parts of the Pripyat, Berezina, Sozh, Dnieper, Niemen, and Zapadnaya Dvina.

Similar flooding caused by snow melts since February has occurred in Romania, Hungary, and the Ukraine.

CANADA (floods)

Significant flooding along the Souris river in southwestern Manitoba has not yet caused any casualties but has created significant problems for local farmers. The melting of record level snowpacks caused much of the recent flooding. British Columbia authorized roughly \$2.5 million USD for repair and strengthening of dikes along the Fraser and other rivers. There is a potential for worse flooding in May and June of this year.

CHINA (summer 1998 floods)

The summer floods of 1998 reportedly destroyed some 645,000 acres of cropland.

COLOMBIA (floods)

25 people have died and 3,000 have been left homeless after heavy rains caused flooding and landslides. Cauca, Narino, Valle, Cundinamarca, and Bogota are the most affected provinces/city.

CUBA (forest fire)

Quoting the GOC, the BBC stated nearly 2,000 people were fighting a large forest fire in the Pinar del Rio province. 600 hectares of pine and eucalyptus trees have reportedly burned.

FIRE

Hot spots have been noted in the southeastern United States (Florida), Mexico and central America, Venezuela, and Cuba. Images are available from:
<http://www.osei.noaa.gov>

NICARAGUA (fire)

Nearly 9,000 hectares of forest and farmland have burned along Nicaragua's Atlantic coast. 550 fires have been reported since February.

SOMALIA (drought)

Drought in north-eastern Somalia has prompted the Red Cross and other relief agencies to deliver water supplies to nomads in Mudug, Nugaal, and Galgadud.

UNITED STATES (fire)(North Carolina)

Brush and forest fires in western North Carolina have burned 405 hectares.

UNITED STATES (storms)(mid-west)

The National Weather Service (NWS) received reports of 64 tornadoes affecting Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, and Illinois. Severe storms affected the mid-west April 8 and 9. The American Red Cross stated 900 homes had been affected -- 200 destroyed and 400 severely damaged. 6 people were killed in the storms.

UNITED STATES (storms)(Mississippi)

Heavy storms and a reported tornado hit Mississippi yesterday. 33 injuries and one death were reported in the affected counties of Jasper and Jones. 40-50 families were displaced and several livestock were also killed.

VIETNAM (drought)

For the second year in a row, rains have failed during the rice planting season. The GOV has allocated 1 million USD for relief to farmers and has asked local officials to give priority to farmers whose livelihoods are likely threatened by the drought.

April 23, 1999

AUSTRALIA (hailstorm)

The 45 minute hailstorm affecting Sydney last week is now estimated to have cost roughly \$640 million USD (A\$1 billion) 15,000 homes were temporarily without power.

FSU (storms)

A series of storms affecting parts of the FSU this past weekend resulted in 5 fatalities. In St. Petersburg, 20 people were reportedly injured. In the Ukraine 100 settlements were also affected, and in Belarus electric services had been damaged. The Ukraine and Belarus are currently dealing with floods caused by melting snowpack.

INDIA (heat)

A heat wave affecting eastern and southern India last week resulted in 19 deaths -- primarily from the state of Orissa.

IRAQ (drought)

Iraq is currently affected by what many believe is the worst drought in a half-century. The GOI banned the planting of rice this season in order to conserve water.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA (flood)

Heavy rains for the past few days have caused flooding in the Western Province. 30,000 people have been affected. Flooding was occurring along the Fly and Strickland Rivers.

PHILIPPINES (landslide and flood)

Heavy rains triggered a landslide in a mining village located in the southern Philippines. 14 people died and 5 were still missing. Flash floods earlier in the week also affected parts of the southern Philippines. 50 houses were destroyed in the Surigao del Sur province.

RUSSIA (fire)

Fires around the city of Vladivostok have burned 1,970 acres of land.

SOMALIA (drought, food situation)

The International Red Cross is delivering water to nomads of Somalia. Drought following several bad harvests is worsening the food situation.

SRI LANKA (floods)

Heavy rains and associated flooding have resulted in 5 deaths and 200,000 homeless individuals. The most affected district was that of Colombo.

UNITED STATES (fire)(Florida)

More than 230,000 acres have burned as a result of forest and brush fire throughout the state of Florida this year. Some 173,000 acres of the burned area was Florida Everglades. Roughly 70 houses have been either damaged or destroyed. Images available at:

<http://www.osei.noaa.gov>

April 30, 1999

CHINA (hailstorm)

22 people died in a two-day hailstorm affecting parts of Hubei province. Heavy rains also occurred in Hubei several days before on April 23-25, thereby flooding some houses and farmland.

CHINA (tornado)

5,000 homes were destroyed and 197 people were injured as a tornado affected Hunan province on April 28.

FIRE

Several hot spots are visible throughout Central America and in southern Mexico above Guatemala and Belize. Hotspots also noted in eastern Russia. All images available at:

<http://www.osei.noaa.gov>

INDIA (heat)

The heat wave in eastern and southern India is now believed to have killed 100 people -- most of which were from Orissa state. There are concerns that displaced or poor persons have been more likely to drink contaminated water as a result of the severe heat. Although water borne diseases are endemic to the region, gastroenteritis is reportedly up 25% since last year.

INDIA (fire)

The Hindustan Times reported that 25,000 hectares of forest area have burned in the last 10 days. The most affected areas have been Garhwal and Kumaon.

PAKISTAN (heat wave)

The heat wave in India is also believed to be affecting Pakistan. 11 deaths have been reported.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA (flood)

There is now concern that heavy rains, which caused flooding throughout the Western Province last week, may result in disease and severely contaminate drinking water. It has been reported that several rivers are littered with animals that perished in the floods.

RUSSIA (forest fire)

Fires have destroyed 3,500 acres. The most affected areas have been Khabarovsk and Birobijan.

SYRIA (drought)

The GOS currently has plans to stop water service to Damascus for six hours each night beginning in June. The spring, Fieji, which supplies Damascus with water, can no longer cope given the severe drought.

May 7, 1999

BANGALDESH (hails torm)

A hailstorm, accompanied by high winds and rainfall, resulted in three fatalities and injured some 150 people in northern Bangladesh. Several thousand people were also displaced.

INDIA (heat wave)

The heat wave in over ndia has reportedly caused the death of at least 140 people. Schools were closed in New Delhi as a result of the heat wave.

FIRE

Hot spots, fire, and/or smoke were reported in Canada, Central America and southern Mexico, as well as eastern Russia. Images are available at:

<http://www.osei.noaa.gov>

UNITED STATES (tornadoes)

Tornadoes affected Kansas and Oklahoma on Monday night. Fatalities have been reported at over 40. In Wichita 100 people were injured and 20,000 homes were left without power. In Oklahoma City an estimated 1,000 homes were destroyed along with another 500 in Moore, just south of Oklahoma City. Some of the seventy-plus tornadoes reached F4 and F5 magnitude.

More tornadoes affected Tennessee Wednesday night. 50,000 people in Nashville went without electricity. The media reported 30 affected counties. Four fatalities were also noted.

May 14, 1999

FIRE

Hot spots and smoke have been noted in Central America and southern Mexico. Images available at: <http://www.osei.noaa.gov>

MEXICO (drought)

The northern state of Sinaloa is reportedly being affected by a severe drought. 65,000 individuals from 200 communities in the mountainous regions are said to be without water. The GOM noted that Sinaloa, as an agricultural state, would likely experience a rise in unemployment due to the rain shortfall.

NEW ZEALAND (drought threat)

New Zealand's Ministry of Agriculture stated that drought could affect the country again for the third year in a row. The Ministry also stated drought from the previous two years cost \$279 million USD in agricultural production.

NORTH KOREA (drought)

Having recently released its own estimates of casualties and damages related to a series of floods, droughts, and subsequent famine affecting the country since 1995, the DPRK also stated that much of its northern regions have been suffering from drought these past several months. Reuters reported that the coastal areas of the north were the hardest hit -- having not received rain for nearly 4 months.

RHINE (flooding)

Flooding along the Rhine in France and Switzerland has occurred as a result of melting snow. There are worries the flooding might continue in France as new melting occurs. The French power company, EDF, shut down several of its hydroelectric stations for 24 hours while the flooding persisted. Several flood

plains and camping grounds were allowed to be inundated in order to relieve the main channel. Reuters reported that in Switzerland several trains were running late as tracks and roads were flooded.

THAILAND (flooding)

Flash floods affecting the Uttaradit and Nakhon Sawan provinces resulted in four fatalities. According to the Bangkok Post, flooding was also noted in the Tak, Kamphaeng Phet, and Uthai Thani provinces.

May 21, 1999

BRAZIL

A heavy rain triggered a mudslide near the town of Salvador that claimed the lives of five individuals and left 20 missing. 9 people were also injured.

CHINA (tornado)

A tornado in Guangdong province resulted in 13 fatalities and 51 injured people. Several hundred homes were also destroyed.

CHINA (flooding)

The Xinhua reported that flooding in Hunan resulted in 17,300 houses damaged or destroyed and 200,000 hectares of flooded farmland. The South China Morning Post reported 3 deaths. The government is preparing 450,000 civilians from the Shangdong province for anti-flood work.

Flooding earlier this year in Hunan submerged 66,000 hectares of land and resulted in 1 death.

INDIA (cyclone)

20,000 people were evacuated as cyclone 2A headed for the Saurashtra coast of India's Gujarat province earlier this week. The Hindustan Times noted that an analogue cyclone last June caused over a thousand deaths in Kandla and surrounding areas. The GOI has allotted each district in Gujarat \$117,000 USD to gather supplies. Images and animation of the cyclone are available at: <http://www.osei.noaa.gov>

MEXICO (drought)

The GOM is giving \$23.5 million USD in assistance to help farmers and ranchers affected by drought. The affected provinces are Sonora, Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas, Sinaloa, Durango, San Luis Potosi, and Zacatecas. The GOM also declared five of the states disaster zones. Water reservoirs are reportedly 13-21 percent of the normal level.

PAKISTAN (cyclone)

According to several media reports, a cyclone has left several hundred people missing in the remote southeastern coastal areas of the country after causing storm surges and flooding. The GOP has sent 300 soldiers to area to aid in relief efforts. Images and animation of the cyclone are available at: <http://www.osei.noaa.gov>

THAILAND (flood)

The Bangkok Post reported that high tides and run-off have resulted in flooding in the areas surrounding the Chao Phraya river. Damage has been minimal so far, but there is concern that flooding might affect parts of the Ayutthaya historical park, which contains ancient ruins.

UNITED STATES (fire)(Florida)

Roughly 175,000 acres of land have burned in Florida this year.

UNITED STATES (hailstorm)

A hailstorm on the weekend of May 9 created 648 "divots" or strikes on the foam insulation of the space shuttle Discovery's external fuel tank. Repairs had to be made before the shuttle's scheduled launch.

May 28, 1999

BRAZIL (storms)

Floods and landslides associated with heavy rainfall have caused 14 deaths while displacing an additional 8,000.

CENTRAL AMERICA (flooding)

Heavy rains and flooding halted nearly 1,000 trucks along the Pan-American Highway between El Salvador and Honduras. There is concern that infrastructure damaged by Mitch may continue to deteriorate as the rainy season approaches.

EUROPE (flooding)

Flooding along the Danube has occurred in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland. Five deaths have resulted and thousands have been evacuated. Flooding of the Rhine has also affected France.

FIRE

Fires and hotspot have been noted in Florida and parts of Canada. Images available at:
<http://www.osei.noaa.gov>

INDIA (cyclone 02A)

The Hindustan Times reported that heavy rains associated with cyclone 02A destroyed thousands of houses and cattle in districts of Rajasthan. The most affected areas were Jaisalmer and Barmer but also included Bikaner, Udaipur, Banswara, and Dungepur.

MEXICO (drought)

Severe drought in Mexico has reportedly reduced many water reservoirs to nearly 20% of normal capacity. Farmers have begun using sewage to irrigate crops.

PAKISTAN (cyclone 02A)

Cyclone 02A hit coastal areas of Pakistan on May 20. Media reports have placed the death toll at 400 and stated 1,200 are still missing. The worst affected areas are the poor fishing villages of the Thatta and Badin districts in the Sind province. In addition some 60,000 hectares of farmland has been severely affected, and hundreds of livestock and poultry destroyed. Some 600 villages were affected.

PERU (flood)

Heavy rains in Peru have caused flooding near the city of Iquitos and surrounding jungle. Four deaths have been reported and some 7,000 homes damaged.

PHILIPPINES (flood)

Two days of heavy rainfall caused flooding in the southern Philippines. Seven deaths have been reported. 75 houses have been damaged or destroyed.

RUSSIA (fire)

Moscow reported that fires in the pine forests of the Siberian region were aggravated by recent warm weather. Fuel and equipment shortages, as well as the remoteness of the area, are hampering efforts to contain the blaze.

June 5, 1999

ETHIOPIA (food situation)

The BBC reported that persisting dry conditions have reduced food production this season in Ethiopia. The most affected regions are in the northwestern parts of the country. The BBC also noted that the Ethiopian Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission said that people from the central mountains of Wollo were already migrating in search of food.

FRANCE (hailstorm)

A hailstorm hitting Paris resulted in three deaths.

IRAN (drought)

Severe water shortages have caused government officials in the city of Tehran to ration water. Police are enforcing the policy. 57 other cities throughout Iran are expected to face water shortages.

JORDAN (drought)

The FAO noted the current drought is the worst in 40 years, and that rainfall is only 30% of normal. The drought has reduced the cereal harvest to 13,000 tonnes. Current cereal production will only cover 0.6 percent of the country's needs this year -- normally 10 percent is covered. Vegetable harvests are down 23 percent, and red meat and milk production is 40 percent below normal.

PAKISTAN (cyclone)

The cyclone affecting southern Pakistan on May 20 most severely affected Thatta and Badin regions. Damages incurred by the two areas, as reported by OCHA, is: 168 people dead; 597,482 people affected; 63,008 houses damaged; 44,149 houses destroyed; 5,243 villages affected; 400,977 acres of cropland affected; 6,718 cattle dead.

PERU (flooding)

Heavy rains and associated flooding in the Department of Loreto in northern Peru have affected 100,000 people. 10,000 houses have been damaged.

PHILIPPINES (typhoon Maggie)

Typhoon Maggie resulted in two reported deaths and stranded thousands as government officials prevented movement or operation of ferries.

RUSSIA (storms)

Storms across central Russia have claimed four lives. During one storm 322 towns were without power.

UNITED STATES (fire)

Lightning sparked fires in the Joshua Tree National Park. 13,900 acres reportedly burned.

UNITED STATES (tornado)

A tornado affecting a reservation in South Dakota left 20 people unaccounted for as of June 5.

June 11, 1999

CHINA (typhoon Maggie)

Typhoon Maggie resulted in two deaths as it affected the southern province of Guangdong. Total damage was reported at \$76.1 million USD. The most severely affected city was reportedly Shanwei.

HAITI (flooding)

Several days of heavy rain resulted in 13 flood related deaths. 10 houses were also reportedly destroyed.

IRAN (flooding)

Flooding in the Iran province of Khorassan resulted in two fatalities. Five apartment buildings were reportedly destroyed while another forty were damaged.

MEXICO (drought)

Dams that supply the Yaqui Valley with irrigation water are reportedly down to 16 percent of normal capacity. The summer planting season has been cancelled this year in many of the drought-affected regions of northern Mexico. The GOM has declared ten of its states disaster areas as a result of the drought.

PHILIPPINES (typhoon Maggie)

Typhoon Maggie, the first of the season to affect the Philippines, resulted in three deaths after

affecting the country's northern provinces on June 6. Minor flooding was reported.

TAIWAN (typhoon Maggie)

Typhoon Maggie resulted in one death and five injuries after the storm passed over on Saturday and Sunday. The typhoon caused serious damage to agriculture in the southern parts of the country. Damage to crops was estimated at 4.8 million USD, but was also expected to rise.

UNITED STATES (heatwave)

Unseasonably warm weather in the eastern United States left several power companies scrambling to meet energy demands. Governors of several eastern states reportedly sent government workers home and urged general public conservation of electricity. Only one heat related death was reported.

UNITED STATES (California)

An unusually cool spring in parts of California has reportedly delayed the spring fruit harvest.

UNITED STATES (flooding)

Heavy rainfall earlier in the week resulted in flooding in parts of Florida. Some people were stranded or temporarily displaced, but damage was minimal. The most affected area was reportedly Broward County.

June 25, 1999

AFGHANISTAN (fire)

Uncontrolled fires in Afghanistan have burned five hectares. On June 17 the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan appealed for international help to contain the fire. The most affected region is reportedly the Dara Pech valley.

BANGLADESH (floods)

Flooding in southeastern Bangladesh has resulted in 10 deaths and injured some 20 people. 15,000 people have been evacuated from their home.

BRAZIL (fire)

Heat signatures and fire noted in southwestern Brazil. Images and details available at:
<http://www.osei.noaa.gov>

CANADA (fire)

Fire and hotspots noted in Canada. Images and details available at:
<http://www.osei.noaa.gov>

CHINA (flooding)

Heavy rainfall in China caused flooding along the Qiangtang River. Several homes and 1,600 acres of farmland were inundated in Lin'an county. A hydroelectric station and shipping operations along the river suspended temporarily.

MEXICO (hurricane Adrian)

Hurricane Adrian affected the central Pacific coast of Mexico over the weekend. Six deaths have been reported.

MEXICO (flooding)

Heavy rains on Weds. and Thurs. resulted in flooding in the Oaxaca state which caused the Ostuta River to overflow. One death was reported. Other states affected by the flooding were Chiapas, Coahuila, Durango, and Jalisco.

MOLDOVA (storm)

Lightning resulted in four deaths and two injuries.

POLAND (floods)

Reuters reported that the GOP declared a flood alert for 15 southern regions. Heavy rains have apparently raised the Oder River to alert levels.

ROMANIA (storm)

A combination of lightning and flooding related to storm activity caused damage to homes, destroyed many farm animals, damaged salt caves in the Slanic-Prahova Mountain, and reportedly left eight people dead.

SIERRA LEONE (storm)

Lightning strikes resulted in thirteen deaths and three injuries.

July 7, 1999

AFGHANISTAN (fire)

According to an OCHA report the fire which began on June 12 affected 160 sq. kilometers of forest. No human casualties were reported.

CHINA (flood)

According to the Xinhua, 240 people have died as a result of flooding in June. 60 million people are currently threatened by the continued flooding. The floods have reportedly affected 3.5 million hectares of land and destroyed 660,000 hectares of cropland. Direct economic losses caused by the floods so far have been estimated between 2.2 and 3.4 billion US dollars. OCHA reported that the floods destroyed 482,000 housing units and damaged another 1.67 million. The most affected provinces are reportedly Anhui, Zhejiang, Hubei, and Jiangxi.

EASTERN EUROPE (storms, flooding)

Storm winds, hail, lightning, and related flooding have affected eastern Europe over the past several weeks. In Romania 150 bridges were damaged as well as 20,000 hectares of farmland. Throughout the region 17 people have died.

July 16, 1999

BANGLADESH (flood)

The Hindustan Times reported that flooding in Bangladesh occurred along an embankment near the town of Comilla as rain swelled the Gomti River. More than 30 villages have reportedly been affected. 10,000 people were evacuated from surrounding villages and 70,000 have been left homeless. 20,000 acres of rice paddy was also damaged. Early monsoon flooding killed 19 people in June of this year, and it is reported that nearly 200,000 people are stranded by flooding in the Comilla district. The BBC reported that possibly 10% of Bangladesh is underwater.

CHINA (flood)

According to yesterday's IFRC report, flooding last month along the Yangtze River caused 240 deaths, injured 3,055, and affected 59 million people. In addition some 1.84 million people have been evacuated from flooded areas. 482,000 rooms have been destroyed while another 1.67 million were severely damaged. 660,000 hectares of crops have been completely lost.

The Xinhua recently reported that roughly 66,000 tourists (foreign and Chinese) were rescued along the Yangtze. As flooding occurred several locks had been closed and the ships stranded on the river.

ETHIOPIA (drought)

UN country team members in Ethiopia launched an appeal for relief of drought affected areas within the country. The IRIN news brief stated the most affected areas were "south Tigray, Wag Harma, north and south Wello, east Harerge, Welayita and Konso."

FIRE

Hotspots and fires were noted in western Russia, Manitoba, and Alaska. Images available at: <http://www.osei.noaa.gov>

INDIA (flooding)

Monsoon rains resulted in 45 deaths and reportedly displaced millions. The most affected area was the state of Tripura.

MEXICO (flood, landslides)

Heavy rain caused the evacuation of 200 people from Acapulco as flooding and landslides threatened the area. 60 homes were reportedly flooded.

ROMANIA (flood, landslides)

Flooding and landslides occurring from July 11 through the 13 have reportedly caused 15 deaths. 1280 residencies have been damaged and 1487 hectares of farmland is

Destroyed. 45 bridges have been destroyed. According to the latest OCHA report, the flooding and landslides in mid to late June affected 21 of 40 counties. 19 people died and 3 were injured. 30 houses were destroyed while another 1,526 houses were damaged. 320 km of road was also damaged.

RUSSIA (drought)

The USDA expects that Russia will need food aid again this coming year as a prolonged drought and locust infestations have reduced initial production estimates.

SERBIA (flood)

Rains on Saturday reportedly caused power outages and left some people homeless in the capital. One death was reported and 10 were still missing. Road and rail traffic was disrupted.

SOMALIA (famine threat)

According to the FAO more than 400,000 people are at risk of famine due to a poor harvest resulting from bad weather, pests, as well as civil war.

TAJKISTAN (landslide)

OCHA reported heavy rains from July 6 through 12 resulted in landslides and flooding. The most affected districts were reportedly Ashd, Aini, and Jirgatal. 18 people were killed, 10 still missing and 23 injured. 316 houses were destroyed and another 412 damaged. 3,511 people are without shelter. 1,126 head of cattle lost. 207 km of road and 49 bridges destroyed. Damage to several public facilities as well as power and irrigation systems.

UNITED STATES (heat wave)(New York City)

NYC is suing Consolidated Edison after a heat wave resulted in black outs in part of the city. 210,000 people were reported without power for a period of time.

UNITED STATES (flood)(California)

Flooding in Forest Falls, California over the weekend reportedly left one person dead and five missing. 4 homes were destroyed while 10 others were damaged.

UNITED STATES (flood)(Arizona)

Nearly seven inches of rain in the Catalina Mountains caused flooding and small landslides. Several hikers were temporarily stranded. Rain on Wednesday caused flash flooding in parts of the Grand Canyon. Four people were injured. The trans-canyon water pipeline was reportedly exposed, but undamaged, as a result of the floods.

UNITED STATES (flood)(Nevada)

Las Vegas experienced flash floods as three inches of rain reportedly fell in two hours. Damage to public property was estimated at \$620,000. 163 people had to be rescued from the flood. Two deaths were reported.

UNITED STATES (drought)

The AP reported that low oxygen levels in the Patapsco and Magothy rivers (tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay) have resulted in 200,000 dead fish. It is possible the current drought is causing the low oxygen level according to the article. Species affected are menhaden, silversides, perch, mummichogs, pickerel, catfish and sunfish.

July 22, 1999

BANGLADESH (flood)

More than 100,000 people have reportedly been made homeless by the current flooding. Continued flooding is also said to have hampered relief efforts.

CHILE (drought)

Reuters reported that Chile's economy continued to suffer, and dips in activity were worse than previously projected. Drought has affected the country for nearly a year resulting in severe reduction in agricultural productivity and frequent power supply problems. The central bank stated the current economic problems were largely a result of the severe drought.

FIRE

Hotspots and fires were noted in Manitoba, southern California, and eastern Russia. Images available at: <http://www.osei.noaa.gov>

HUNGARY (flood)

Heavy rain on last Friday caused flooding that displaced 3,000 people from their homes. 173,000 acres were reportedly inundated. The GOH estimated damage at 400 million USD

INDIA (flood)

Current flooding has affected the states of Assam, West Bengal, Bihar, Kerala, and Tripura. OCHA reported 69 deaths, 3,212 villages affected, and 15,058 houses damaged. The Xinhua noted that the Press Trust of India reported over 200 deaths have been caused by the recent flooding.

UNITED STATES (flooding)(Iowa)

Flooding in northern Iowa along the Cedar River has damaged at least 100 homes. Water levels in certain areas are reported to have exceeded those experienced during the 1993 floods. The flooding which affected north-central Iowa over the previous weekend caused disaster declarations in Worth, Floyd, Cerro Gordo, and Mitchell counties.

UNITED STATES (drought)(Pennsylvania)

The governor of Pennsylvania declared a drought emergency in 55 counties.

July 30, 1999

BANGLADESH (flood)

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CHINA (flood)

The AP reported that on Sunday a dike along the Yangtze broke in central China. 120,000 people were evacuated. The Xinhua reported that 291 deaths have occurred this year as a result of flooding.

CHINA (flood)

Recent flooding in the provinces of Anhui and Zhejiang have caused an estimated \$2.87 billion USD worth of damage and affected 22,905,400 people.

ETHIOPIA (drought)

According to the UN Emergencies Unit for Ethiopia as reported by the IRIN, the latest estimate for the number of people affected by drought in the country is 5,378,671. Within this number 384,858 displaced people are included.

FIRE

Hotspots and fires were noted in South America. Images available at: <http://www.osei.noaa.gov>

HUNGARY (flood)

Heavy rain on last Friday caused flooding that displaced 3,000 people from their homes. 173,000 acres were reportedly inundated. The GOH estimated damage at 400 million USD. Flooding which occurred between July 10 and 15 is reported by OCHA to have damaged 2,388 residential buildings while flooding 80,000 hectares of agricultural land. 180 km of public road was also affected. Damages are expected to exceed 124 million USD.

INDIA (flood)

Current flooding has affected the states of Assam, West Bengal, Bihar, Kerala, and Tripura. OCHA reported 69 deaths, 3,212 villages affected, and 15,058 houses damaged. The Xinhua noted that the Press Trust of India reported over 200 deaths have been caused by the recent flooding.

IRAN (flood)

According to Reuters recent flooding in Iran has resulted in 51 people dead or missing. 5,000 homes were severely damaged.

RUSSIA (fire)

OCHA reported that fires this year have burned 586,153 hectares.

SLOVAKIA (flood)

OCHA reported that flooding in the middle and northern regions of Slovakia that occurred at the end of June and early July affected 12,617 people. Flooding also affected 5,793 houses and 57,587 hectares of farmland. 2110 km of local roads were damaged as well as 72 km of state roads. 105 bridges were destroyed or damaged. The AFP noted one death and one missing person.

UNITED STATES (flooding)(Iowa)

Flooding in northern Iowa along the Cedar River has damaged at least 100 homes. Water levels in certain areas are reported to have exceeded those experienced during the 1993 floods. The flooding which affected north-central Iowa over the previous weekend caused disaster declarations in Worth, Floyd, Cerro Gordo, and Mitchell counties.

UNITED STATES (drought)(Pennsylvania)

The governor of Pennsylvania declared a drought emergency in 55 counties.

UNITED STATES (drought)(Maryland)

The governor of Maryland declared a drought emergency.

UNITED STATES (heat wave)

The heat wave affecting the United States has currently been blamed for 73 deaths. 3,000 head of cattle from Nebraska have reportedly died as a result of the heat wave.

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